

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION**In the Specification**

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 51, line 9 and ending at page 52, line 2 with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 3 shows a diagram exhibiting the first embodiment of the preferable arrangement (referred to as arrangement I-1, hereinafter) of the liquid crystal display device of the present invention. In arrangement I-1, the absorption axis of the polarizer at the output side and the in-plane slow axis of the liquid crystal of the liquid crystal cell under application of no voltage are disposed at relative positions parallel to each other~~[, and the absorption axis of the polarizer at the output side and the in-plane slow axis of the liquid crystal of the liquid crystal cell under application of no voltage are disposed at relative positions parallel to each other]~~. The in-plane slow axes of optically anisotropic member (A) and optically anisotropic member (B) are disposed at relative positions approximately parallel to each other. It is preferable that the in-plane slow axis of optically anisotropic member (B) and the in-plane slow axis of the liquid crystal of the liquid crystal cell under application of no voltage are disposed at relative positions approximately parallel to each other, and optically anisotropic member (A) is disposed at a position closer to the liquid cell than optically anisotropic member (B). Due to the above relative positions of optically anisotropic member (A), optically anisotropic member (B), the liquid crystal cell and the two polarizers, the minimum value of the contrast can be made 30 or greater at polar angles of 0 to 80°.

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 52, line 25 and ending at page 53, line 18 with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 4 shows a diagram exhibiting the second embodiment of the preferable arrangement (referred to as arrangement I-2, hereinafter) of the liquid crystal display device of the present invention. In arrangement I-2, the absorption axis of the polarizer at the output side and the in-plane slow axis of the liquid crystal of the liquid crystal cell under application of no voltage are disposed at relative positions parallel to each other~~[, and the absorption axis of the polarizer at the output side and the in-plane slow axis of the liquid crystal of the liquid crystal cell under application of no voltage are disposed at relative positions parallel to each other]~~. The in-plane slow axes of optically anisotropic member (A) and optically anisotropic member (B) are disposed at relative positions approximately parallel to each other. It is preferable that the in-plane slow axis of optically anisotropic member (B) and the in-plane slow axis of the liquid crystal of the liquid crystal cell under application of no voltage are disposed at relative positions approximately perpendicular to each other, and optically anisotropic member (B) is disposed at a position closer to the liquid cell than optically anisotropic member (A). Due to the above relative positions of optically anisotropic member (A), optically anisotropic member (B), the liquid crystal cell and the two polarizers, the minimum value of the contrast can be made 30 or greater at polar angles of 0 to 80°.

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 54, line 13 and ending at page 55, line 6 with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 5 shows a diagram exhibiting the third embodiment of the preferable arrangement (referred to as arrangement II-1, hereinafter) of the liquid crystal display device of the present invention. In arrangement II-1, the absorption axis of the polarizer at the output side and the in-plane slow axis of the liquid crystal of the liquid crystal cell under application of no voltage are disposed at relative positions parallel to each other~~[, and the absorption axis of the polarizer at the output side and the in-plane slow axis of the liquid crystal of the liquid crystal cell under application of no voltage are disposed at relative positions parallel to each other]~~. The in-plane slow axes of optically anisotropic member (A) and optically anisotropic member (B) are disposed at relative positions approximately parallel to each other. It is preferable that the in-plane slow axis of optically anisotropic member (B) and the in-plane slow axis of the liquid crystal of the liquid crystal cell under application of no voltage are disposed at relative positions approximately perpendicular to each other, and optically anisotropic member (A) is disposed at a position closer to the liquid cell than optically anisotropic member (B). Due to the above relative positions of optically anisotropic member (A), optically anisotropic member (B), the liquid crystal cell and the two polarizers, the minimum value of the contrast can be made 30 or greater at polar angles of 0 to 80°.

Replace the paragraph at page 57, lines 3-24 with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 7 shows a diagram exhibiting the fifth embodiment of the preferable arrangement (referred to as arrangement III-1, hereinafter) of the liquid crystal display device of the present invention. In arrangement III-1, the absorption axis of the polarizer at the output side and the in-

plane slow axis of the liquid crystal of the liquid crystal cell under application of no voltage are disposed at relative positions parallel to each other[, ~~and the absorption axis of the polarizer at the output side and the in-plane slow axis of the liquid crystal of the liquid crystal cell under application of no voltage are disposed at relative positions parallel to each other~~]. The in-plane slow axes of optically anisotropic member (A) and optically anisotropic member (B) are disposed at relative positions approximately parallel to each other. It is preferable that the in-plane slow axis of optically anisotropic member (A) and the in-plane slow axis of the liquid crystal of the liquid crystal cell under application of no voltage are disposed at relative positions approximately perpendicular to each other, optically anisotropic member (A) is disposed between the liquid crystal cell and the polarizer at the incident side, and optically anisotropic member (B) is disposed between the liquid crystal cell and the polarizer at the output side. Due to the above relative positions of optically anisotropic member (A), optically anisotropic member (B), the liquid crystal cell and the two polarizers, the minimum value of the contrast can be made 30 or greater at polar angles of 0 to 80°.

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 58, line 13 and ending at page 59, line 8 with the following amended paragraph:

Figure 8 shows a diagram exhibiting the sixth embodiment of the preferable arrangement (referred to as arrangement III-2, hereinafter) of the liquid crystal display device of the present invention. In arrangement III-2, the absorption axis of the polarizer at the output side and the in-plane slow axis of the liquid crystal of the liquid crystal cell under application of no voltage are

disposed at relative positions parallel to each other~~[, and the absorption axis of the polarizer at the output side and the in-plane slow axis of the liquid crystal of the liquid crystal cell under application of no voltage are disposed at relative positions parallel to each other]~~. The in-plane slow axes of optically anisotropic member (A) and optically anisotropic member (B) are disposed at relative positions approximately parallel to each other. It is preferable that the in-plane slow axis of optically anisotropic member (A) and the in-plane slow axis of the liquid crystal of the liquid crystal cell under application of no voltage are disposed at relative positions approximately parallel to each other, optically anisotropic member (B) is disposed between the liquid crystal cell and the polarizer at the incident side, and optically anisotropic member (A) is disposed between the liquid crystal cell and the polarizer at the output side. Due to the above relative positions of optically anisotropic member (A), optically anisotropic member (B), the liquid crystal cell and the two polarizers, the minimum value of the contrast can be made 20 or greater at polar angles of 0 to 80°.

Replace the paragraph at page 64, lines 20-22 with the following amended paragraph:

Preparation Example 2 (Preparation of a film of optically anisotropic member (B1) ~~[satisfying $n_{xB} > n_{zB}$ and an absolute value of the difference between n_{xB} and n_{zB} of 0.003 or smaller]~~)

Replace the paragraph at page 87, lines 14-19 with the following amended paragraph:

A long sheet of unstretched film (a7) comprising a norbornene-based polymer [manufacture by NIPPON ZEON Co., Ltd.; ZEONOR 1600; the glass transition temperature: 163°C] and having a thickness of 100 μm was obtained in accordance with the extrusion molding. Unstretched film (a7) [~~(b2)~~] obtained above had a content of residual volatile components of 0.01% or smaller.